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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No.: 10/804,124) Group Art Unit: 3746 Description of the control of the

Filed : March 19, 2004) Confirmation No.: 6398

For : EXTENDIBLE EXHAUST NOZZLE BELL FOR A ROCKET

ENGINE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, Applicant hereby submit the following documents for the Examiner's consideration:

Applicant submits herewith a copy of a European Search Report dated July 5, 2004 conducted in European Patent Application No. EP 04 00 6296, which is a counterpart of the above-captioned application. In particular, the European Examiner cited:

(1) U.S. Patent No. 4,706,886 issued to Jencek November 17, 1987 as a "D" category document, i.e., a document discussed in the application, and as an "A" category document, i.e., a document of technological background. The European Examiner identified the entire document as relevant to claims 1 and 11 of the European application. Further, Applicant notes that this document is discussed in the instant application beginning in paragraph [0003];

EF\$-Web Receipt date: 08/02/2004

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(2) U.S. Patent No. 3,596,465 issued to Pryor et al. August 3, 1971 as an "A" category document. In particular, the European Examiner noted the entire document as relevant to claim 1 of the European application;

- (3) U.S. Patent No. 4,426,038 issued to Inman et al. January 17, 1984 as an "A" category document. In particular, the European Examiner noted colum 3, lines 24 28 and Figures 1 and 2 as particularly relevant to claim 1 of the European application; and
- (4) U.S. Patent No. 4,638,947 issued to Jaqua et al. January 27, 1987 as an "A" category document. In particular, the European Examiner noted Figures 4 and 5 as relevant to claims 5 and 7 of the European application.

Each of the above-cited documents are listed on the enclosed completed copy of the PTO-1449 Form. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to consider these documents and to indicate such consideration by returning a signed and initialed copy of the PTO-1449 Form with the first official communication.

Moreover, copies of the European Search Report and of the cited non-U.S. patent documents are being submitted herewith. However, pursuant to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R 1.98 (a)(2)(i), copies of the cited/listed U.S. patents and U.S. published patent applications are not enclosed herewith. Moreover, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Should there be any questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted, Joachim KRETSCHMER

Neil F. Greenblum

Reg. No. 28,394

P25020.A02 Customer No.: 7055

August 2, 2004 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 Roland Clarke Place Reston, VA 20191 (703) 716-1191

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